

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE

December 29, 2003

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Dan Basta, Director

National Marine Sanctuary Program

FROM:

NWHI Corul Reef Ecosystem Reserve

SUBJECT:

Approval of NWHI Reserve Advisory Council Member Term

Extensions

As you recall, the initial appointments of voting members of the RAC involved seven of fifteen members being selected for two-year terms and seven of fifteen members being selected for three-year terms. The fifteenth voting member of the RAC is a representative from the State of Hawai'i, and has no specific term limit.

The National Marine Sanctuary Program (NMSP) chose to postpone the advertisement/application process for the two-year group, because the NMSP wanted to maintain continuity within the RAC pending the completion of the draft Reserve Operations Plan. This was a "function based" extension, and similar extensions have occurred throughout the program's other Advisory Councils.

We are requesting a similar, function-based extension for those members of the RAC and their alternates who are currently assigned to three-year appointments and whose appointments began in 2001. The reason for this extension is to keep the RAC as intact as possible through the drafting of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Sanctuary proposal. We are requesting to extend the three-year members and alternates one-year beyond their original term until February 2005.

Any resignations will continue to be filled as they occur, and this member term extension will not affect the normal term of officers as outlined in our charter.

Attached please find a memorandum that we would like to send to the Council once we receive your approval.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Let's Discuss

Attachment

